

Revision of The Constitution, League & Competition Regulations, as adopted at the Annual General Meeting held on the 6th December 2022, in entire substitution for rules previously in force for the R.B.A.

1. Title

The Association shall be called the "The Romford & District Bowls Association" and its Headquarters shall be the Romford Bowling Club, Lodge Farm Park, Romford, RM2 5AA and shall be associated member of Bowls England and the Essex County Bowling Association (ECBA).

2. Administration

The affairs of the Association shall be conducted at an Annual General Meeting and at Executive, Management and Selection Committee meetings as stated hereunder.

3. Objects

The primary objects of the Association shall be

- (a) To promote, foster and safeguard the level green game of Bowls in the Romford & District in accordance with the laws of the game as laid down by Bowls England.
- (b) Organizing friendly matches with other districts and/or clubs together with any other competitions and tournaments.
- (c) Interpreting when called upon by any club or individual member of a club question of law and practice and by acting as arbitrator in disputes referred to it by any club or individual club member which shall be held to be within the Association's jurisdiction.

4. Membership

The Association shall be formed from Bowling Clubs affiliated to the Essex County Bowling Association, and having greens accepted by the Romford & District Bowls Association. The playing area of club greens must conform to the minimum requirements laid down from time to time by Bowls England and the ECBA.

Associate membership shall be granted to Indoor Bowling Clubs in the Romford & District that are affiliated to Essex County Indoor Bowling Association.

Application for membership must be made to the Secretary who shall submit such application for approval by the Executive Committee.

Member Clubs and the individual member should, wherever possible, support the association in all activities if membership of the Association is to be maintained.

5. Membership Severance

Upon breach of the rules of the Association, it shall be competent for the Management Committee, after due investigation, to suspend or determine the membership of any associated club. Such club shall have the right of appeal, which must be in writing signed by the Officers of the club and lodged with the secretary within 14 days of the notification of the Management Committee decision. Such appeal must state the ground on which it is made.

Any appeal shall be considered and decided by the AGM or at any Special Meeting convened by the Management Committee for the purpose of determining such appeal. The decision of the General/Special Meeting shall be final.

6. The Officers

The officers of the Association shall be:

- (a) President
- (b) Deputy President
- (c) Immediate Past President
- (d) Secretary
- (e) Treasurer
- (f) Competition Secretary
- (g) Match Secretary
- (h) Shield/Triples League Secretary

The Officers shall be elected at the AGM each year and shall be known as the Management Committee.

7. The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall meet on the first Tuesday in April and October and at other times, as necessary, and shall:

- (a) Consist of the Officers of the Association and three delegates nominated by each member club.
- (b) Deal with and have powers to act in all matters delegated by the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Have power to co-opt two Past Presidents.
- (d) Have power to give notice of motions and to make recommendations to the Annual General Meeting.
- (e) Have power to appoint subcommittees as and when required.
- (f) Temporary substitution shall be allowed for club delegates provided the Secretary has been advised in writing.

8. The Management Committee

The management committee (as stated in Rule 6) shall be vested with the power of the Executive to deal with all urgent matters between meetings of the Executive Committee. Its decision shall be final but must be reported to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Five Officers shall form a quorum.

9. Selection Committee

The Selection Committee shall comprise of:

- (a) President
- (b) Deputy President
- (c) Match Secretary
- (d) Gen Secretary

The selectors shall be responsible for team selection of all teams representing the Association together with nominations for any representative matches.

10. Dinner Committee

The Dinner committee shall be responsible for all arrangements for the Annual Dinner. Members of the Committee will be President, Treasurer and Secretary, other members may be co-opted as required.

11. Annual General Meeting

(a) The Annual General Meeting shall:

- (1) Be held on the first Tuesday in December.
- (2) Receive and adopt Officer Reports and financial accounts for the year ending 30th September.
- (3) Elect Officers.
- (4) Introduce the new Deputy President.

Incoming Deputy Presidents shall be supplied by member clubs in an alphabetical rotation (Starting with Rainham BC in 2021). Deputy Presidents will rise to be President of the Association the following year.

If clubs do not have the facilities to hold the RBA Finals/President's matches then it will be their responsibility to arrange for an Association Club to host the matches at their venue on behalf of the President in office whom will attend the events.

- (5) Elect two Hon Financial Examiners.
- (6) Elect Press Officer (Non Executive).
- (7) Accept notice of motion from any member club which must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no later than twenty eight days before the date of the Annual General Meeting, member clubs to be notified of such before the AGM.

(b) Those entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting are:

- (1) Officers
 - (2) Member Club delegates
- (c) A substitute delegate shall be allowed, provided the Secretary has been advised in writing.
- (d) Voting shall be by ballot if requested by a qualified member. Simple majority of votes shall apply to all appointments with the Chairman having the casting vote.
- (e) Members of all Member Clubs shall be entitled to attend and take part in discussions but will not be able to vote.

12. Special General Meeting

(a) If the Executive and/or management committee determine that sufficient cause has been shown, on application from an Affiliated Club, a Special General Meeting shall be called by the Secretary to deal with the business set out in the application. No other business than that set out in the application shall be transacted at a Special General Meeting.

(b) Those entitled to vote shall be those stated at Rule 11b.

13. Honorary Life Members

Life Membership may be conferred upon any member in recognition of his services to the Association upon recommendation by the Executive Committee and confirmed by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

14. Fees and Subscriptions

Each member club shall pay an annual fee per member to the Association as decided at the October meeting of the Executive Committee on recommendation by the Treasurer. Such fees are payable no later than 1st January each year. Failure to pay fee/subscriptions by the due date shall cause forfeiture of all rights and privileges of membership until paid in full.

15. Association Blazer Badges

To qualify for the Association badge, members shall have played for the Association for a minimum period of 2 years. The cost of the badge to be defrayed by the recipient. Flashes will be awarded to members playing fifty and one hundred matches for the Association.

16. Associate Membership

(a) Associate Membership shall be open to Indoor Bowling Clubs within the Romford and District. Such clubs shall be affiliated to Essex County Indoor Bowling Association with Constitution and Rules consistent with the objects of Romford and District Bowls Association.

(b) Such clubs would allow their greens and facilities to be used by the Association for friendly matches with other Districts and/or Leagues from time to time during the winter indoor season.

(c) No fees and/or subscriptions shall be payable on the registration.

(d) Individual Associate Members shall be eligible to partake in all indoor friendly matches of the Association.

(e) Applications for Associate Membership shall be submitted to the Secretary for approval by the Executive Committee.

17. Alteration of Rules

Alteration and/or addition to any or all of the Constitution and Rules of the Association shall be made only at an Annual General or Special General Meeting convened for such purpose. Twenty-eight days' notice shall be given for any proposed change which shall be clearly stated, in writing, and sent to the Secretary. No such changes/alterations or additions to Constitution and Rules of the Association shall be deemed to have been passed unless a minimum of two-thirds of votes in favour.

18. General

Any point not covered by these rules shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee, who will be empowered to adjudicate upon any dispute referred to it arising between member Clubs as to the meaning or interpretation of any Rules, or any matter of practice, policy or complaint which shall be held within its jurisdiction. The subject of any reference or appeal must be clearly stated, in writing, to the Secretary, who shall call an Executive Committee to deal with the matter. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.